COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM FY 2000 ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

RECOVERY PROGRAM PROJECT NUMBER: 75

- I. Project Title: Floodplain Protection Issue Paper-Phase II, Colorado River Recovery Program, Upper Colorado River Basin, Colorado
- II. Principal Investigator:

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III. Project Summary: The objectives of this project were to develop a strategy paper and action plan presenting incentive-based approaches for restoring and protecting floodplain habitats to benefit endangered fish.

Phase II tasks as defined by the Recovery Program are outlined below. The following task outline is derived from the 1999 Colorado River Recovery Program, Project No. 75, FY-2000, Proposed Scope of Work (USFWS 1999).

- **Task 1**: Evaluate various restoration and protection tools/approaches including but not limited to local zoning, easement programs, incentive programs, and State or Federal permit or regulatory authorities. Results from this task are presented in Section 2.
- **Task 2**: Evaluate programs being used to conserve and protect the floodplain in other parts of the country. Results from this task are presented in Section 3.
- **Task 3**: Contact local and state government officials in the priority geographic areas within the basin to determine existing tools and approaches and evaluate the feasibility and political viability of various floodplain restoration options. Results from this task are presented in Section 4.
- **Task 4**: Identify considerations associated with lead responsibilities (e.g., FEMA, USACE, CWCB, UDNR, etc.) for various options, including the role of the Recovery Program, and identify potential costs and funding strategies. Results from this task are presented in Section 4.
- **Task 5**: Prepare a draft action plan, which identifies options and potential schedules for a floodplain protection program, for review by the Management Committee. Results from this task are presented in Section 5.
- **Task 6**: Address comments received, prepare final plan.

IV. Study Schedule:

Initial Year - FY 99 Final Year - Unknown

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

General Recovery Program Support Action Plan II

II.C.2. Identify how to conduct restoration and protection by addressing: 1) restoration and protection tools/approaches; 2) institutional options for floodplain restoration and protection; 3) cost/funding strategy; and 4) implementation steps and schedule.

II.C.3. Identify viable options and develop specific restoration and protection strategies for selected priority geographic areas.

VI. Accomplishment of FY 1999 and 2000 Tasks and Deliverables: (Tt Project #10600.22)

The final draft report was submitted to the Management Committee in February 2000. No comments have been received to date.

VII. Recommendations:

Finalize report. Program Director's Office will implement action plan as time allows.

VIII. Project Status:

Plan has yet to be finalized.

IX. FY 00 Budget:

A. Funds Provided: \$ 30,000.00 B. Funds Expended: \$ 26,005.94 C. Difference: \$ 3.994.06

D. Percent of work completed to date: 87%

X. Status of Data Submission: Not applicable

XI. Signed: <u>12-4-2000</u> Principal Investigator Date

Appendix: For more detailed information, please refer to: "Draft Floodplain Protection Issue Paper-Phase II, Colorado River Recovery Program Project No. 75", prepared by Tetra Tech ISG Engineering Inc. February 18, 2000.